



# ONE COUNTRY

**May 27, 2019**



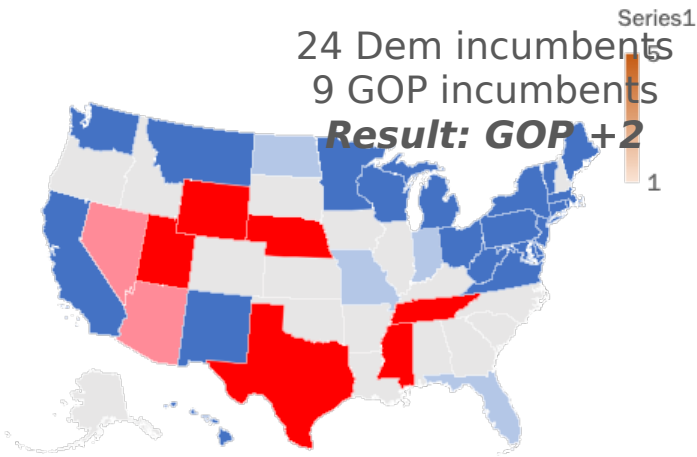
# Democrats face a difficult path to a 2020 majority in the Senate, with structural disadvantages moving forward

- A potential Democratic President must have a Democratic Senate if they wish to accomplish any major reforms.
- **Republicans should be more vulnerable**, with 22 Republican seats up for election and only 12 Democratic ones.
  - Since 2000, the party defending the most Senate seats suffered a net loss in 7 out of 10 instances, with an average loss of 5 seats.
  - Democrats Need a Net Gain of 3 or 4 Seats to take control (3 if a Democrat wins Presidency).
  - In 2018, Republicans translated their structural advantage to a 2 seat gain.
- Why will Democrats face challenges?
  - Senate results are increasingly correlated with Presidential results.
  - 2020 GOP incumbents come largely from strong Trump states.
  - Rural states are particularly problematic.



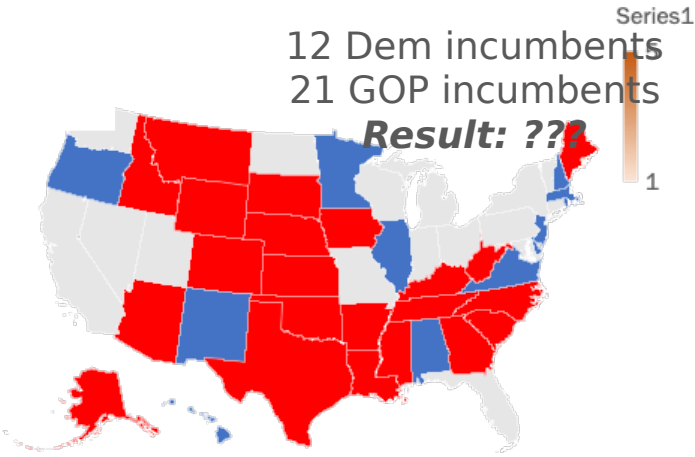
# With more GOP Senate incumbents facing reelection, the map *should* favor Democrats

2018 Senate Results



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2020 Senate Map



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|                 |  |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Democratic hold |  |  |  |
| Democratic loss |  |  |  |
| Republican hold |  |  |  |
| Republican loss |  |  |  |

Close Races

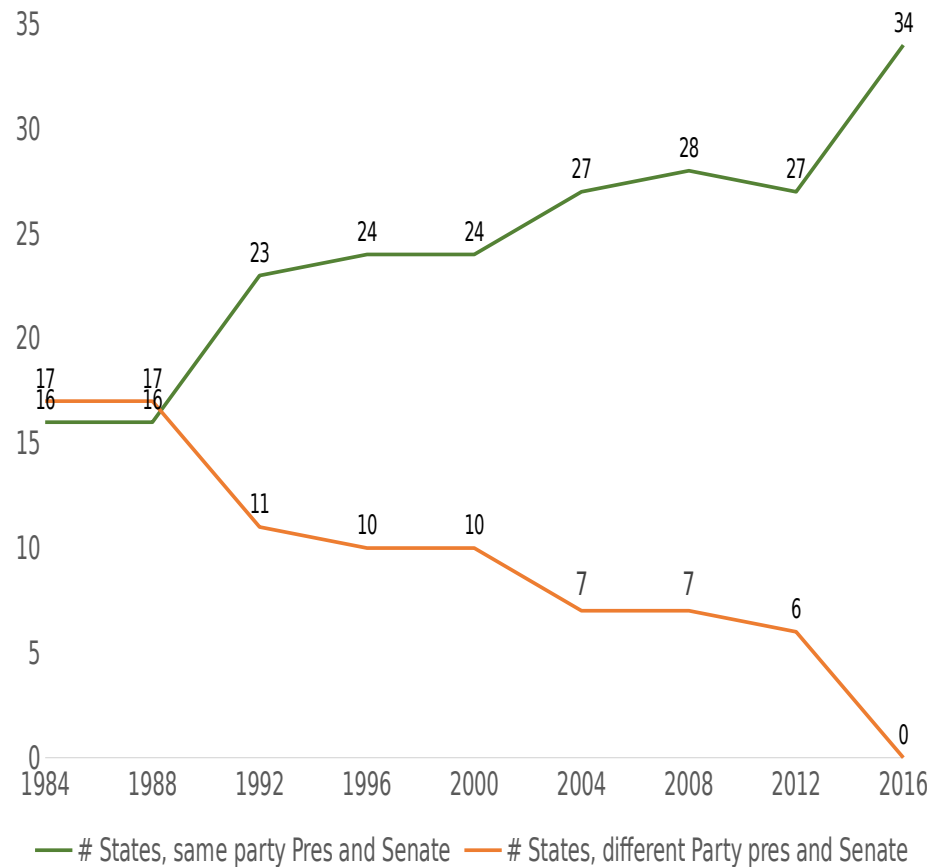
|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| AZ: D+2.4 | MT: D+3.5 |
| FL: R+0.2 | NV: D+4.9 |
| IN: R+5.9 | TX: R+2.7 |
| MO: R+5.8 | WV: D+2.3 |

|                      |
|----------------------|
| Democratic Incumbent |
| Republican Incumbent |



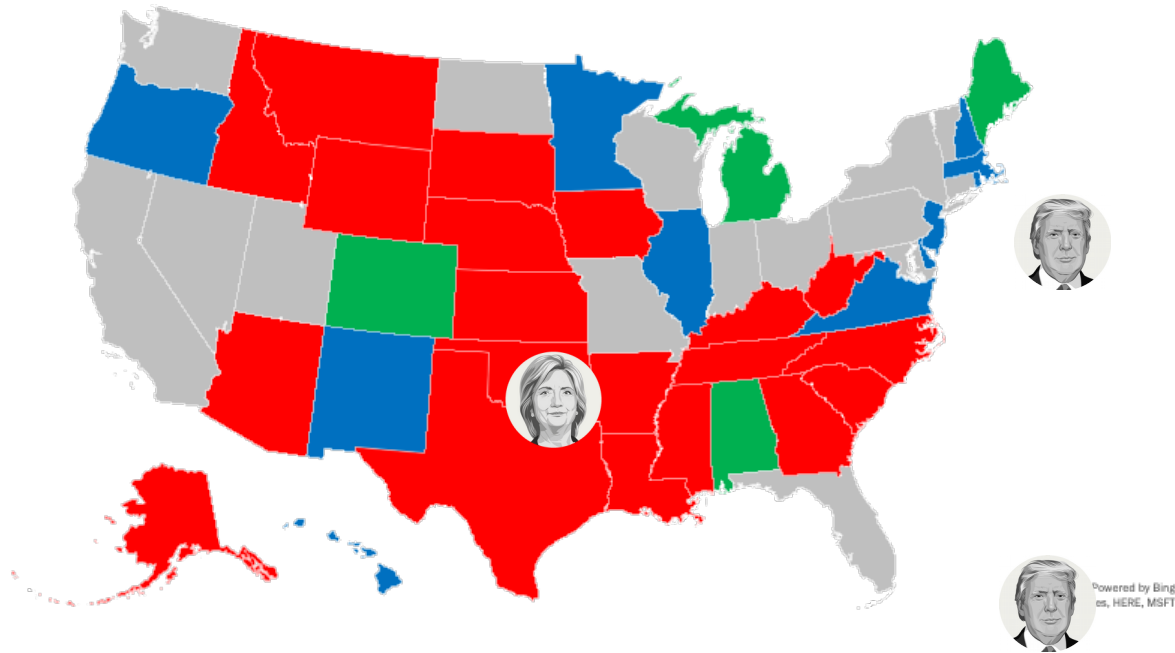
# Presidential results now have an outsized impact on Senate outcomes

In 2016, EVERY Senate race result matched the top of the ticket in the state, unlike previous years



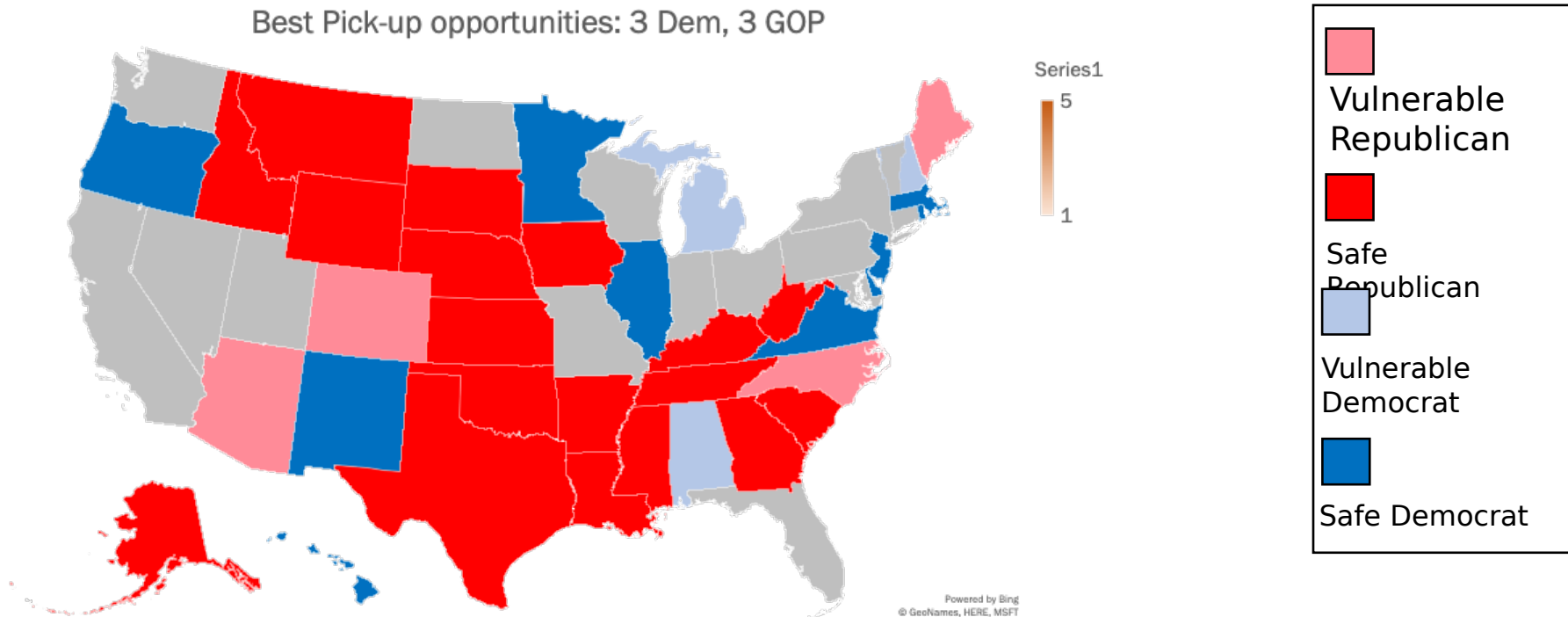
# Looking at the 2020 Senate map through 2016 results, the breakthrough opportunities look much thinner

2020 Senate states where current incumbent is of different party than  
2016 Presidential winner



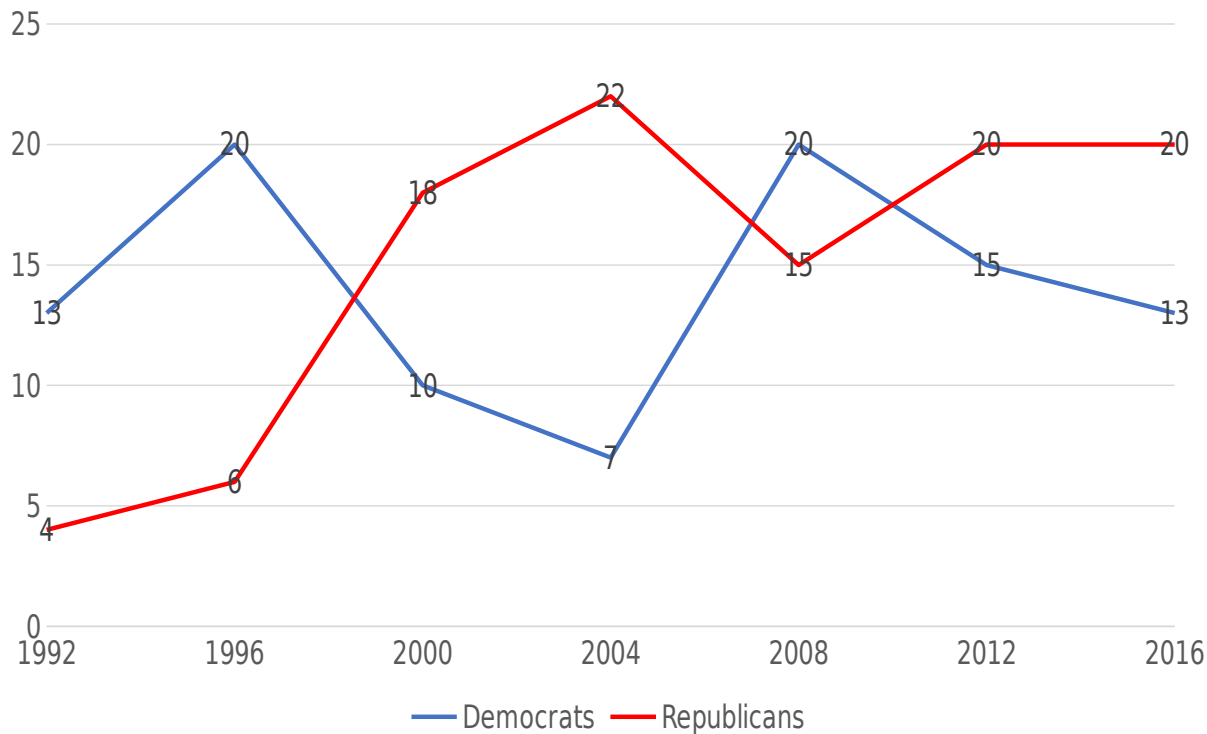
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# This hues closely to conventional wisdom about the 2020 Senate Map



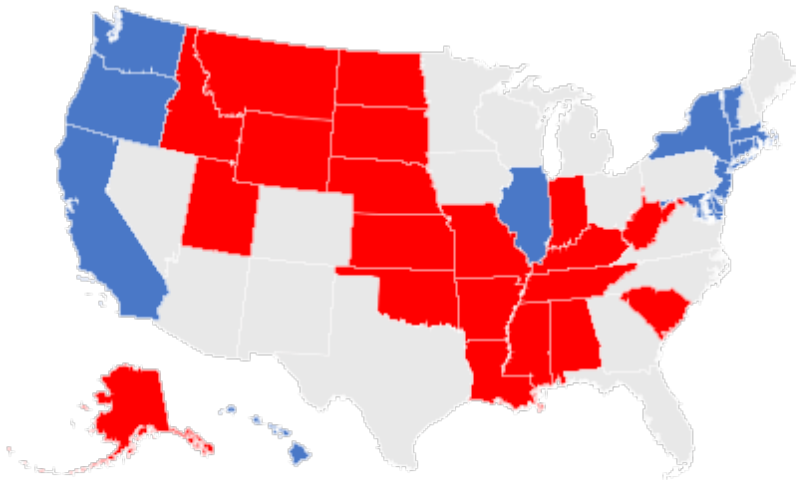
# Republicans now have consistently more “safe” presidential states: this provides them a strong base for the Senate

# of States where Presidential Candidate Won by 10 or more Points



The GOP Senate majority is built on rural states: 19% of the population yields a state “base” of 40 seats  
Just Manchin, Tester and Jones hold seats in that GOP base geography

Party Base by State



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Base State Population

